CLEAN COPY OF THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel for holding hot and melting metals and to transport said liquid metals and comprising:

a selectively open and closed cover comprising a surface and a displaceable furnace riser pipe of the closed vessel on the cover;

at least one of heater elements and inductive heaters;

at least one discharge channel;

an open or a closed cavity within an inside space of the vessel;

at least one thermally insulating material subtending the inside space of the vessel; and

a textile 3D-surface structure lining the cavity.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that when open , the metal vessel comprises a hot-holding, ladling and melting furnace, and that when closed the metal vessel comprises at least one of a hot-holding furnace, a low-pressure casting furnace, a low-pressure metal transporting furnace, and a liquid-metal transporting vessel.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the textile 3D-surface structure lines the cavity, the at least one discharge channel, and the cover surface integrally in at least one seamlesslayer .

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the surfaces of the at least one layer of textile 3D-surface structure comprises a coating depending on metal requirements.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the textile 3D-surface structure is made of at least one of glass and ceramic fibers.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating material subtending the inside space of the metal vessel is a seamless, upwardly open insulating housing.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating material is at least one of glass foam, glass fibers, ceramic, and fiber-ceramic materials.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one of heater elements and inductive heaters comprise protective substances mounted in the metal vessel and made of at least one of glass, glass fibers, and fiber ceramics.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the displaceable furnace riser pipe is both centered and guided by a bushing on the furnace cover and is displaced by a drive system).

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel as claimed by claim 1, characterized in that the metal vessel is received by at least one of an additional, sealable single and collecting container when closed.